

TOWN MANAGER
Ken Deal

TOWN CLERK
Pamela Mills

TOWN ATTORNEY
Tom Brooke



MAYOR
Lee Withers

TOWN COUNCIL
Arthur Heggins
Brandon Linn
Rodney Phillips
Charles Seaford
Steve Stroud

TOWN OF CHINA GROVE

A regular meeting of the China Grove Town Council

Monday, December 3, 2019
7:00 p.m.

China Grove Town Hall
China Grove, North Carolina

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Withers called the regular meeting of December 3rd, 2019 to order. He recognized Troop 328. He asked Isaiah Beaver to lead the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Withers called roll. All council members were present. There was a quorum.

The meeting started at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall.

Mayor Withers amended the agenda with the addition of a Proclamation as Item V. Mr. Stroud made a motion to adopt the agenda. Mr. Heggins seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda items:

- a) Approve Minutes from the November 4th, 2019 regular meeting
- b) Approve Minutes from the November 4th, 2019 closed session
- c) Adopt Budget Amendment Ordinance

Mr. Linn made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Seaford seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mayor Withers recognized his father, Roger Withers for his dedicated service to the community with a Proclamation. He stated Mr. Withers has served on the Council many times, coached several kids in youth football and basketball. Mayor Withers read the proclamation aloud. He was honored with a standing ovation and applause.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Mr. Phillips asked Mr. Withers to step forward in recognition of serving as a Councilman and as Mayor. Mr. Phillips stated all through our lives we have been involved in clubs, scouts, church activities and work. He stated 85% of the people are just there. He stated very few push the envelope and make things happen. He stated for twelve years, eight as Councilman and four as Mayor, Mr. Withers has pushed hard for China Grove to become the town it is today. He stated China Grove is a better town thanks to Mr. Withers leadership and spokespersonship. He stated what impressed him the most about Mr. Withers is he works hard in town but he works hard outside of town as well. He presented Mr. Withers with a plaque. He was honored with a standing ovation and applause.

Mayor Withers stated Mr. Phillips mentioned the population of the town. He stated he would like to remind everyone of the Census coming up in 2020 and asked everyone to make sure they are counted. He stated he

started his journey into public serves to serve this town and its people. He stated he has been able to play apart and lead this town into a great transition from 2007 until today. He stated we have developed and strengthened every department in town. He stated we have put in place leadership structure that did not exist. He stated with this leadership Eddie Kluttz and now Andrew Deal our Police Department is retaining officers in a place where they want to call home. He stated under the leadership of Mike Zimmerman our Fire Department is worlds ahead of what it was a couple of years ago. He stated the Public Works Department have amazing men that keep this town running. He thanked David Ketner for taking care of these men and supporting what they do. He stated he is thankful for Mary Jo Bopp for keeping the books legal and the budget on track. He stated he is thankful for Pamela Mills for making sure what he is doing is correct and legal. He stated Franklin Gover is a great addition to this group. He stated he hopes the next Town Council finds a way to support him in being groomed as the next Town Manager. He stated one of the best ideas he had was to reclassify jobs and hire an Events Coordinator. He stated Patti Price has put this town on the map and has other towns noticing China Grove as a place to be. He stated Ken Deal was brought in to stabilize the town and to provide insight and clean up relationships with the county. He asked Mr. Seaford and the Council to take their time in filling the vacant seat. He stated Mr. Seaford lead an amazing door to door campaign. He stated since the Mayor does not have a vote the only thing left is your voice. He stated being Mayor has been one of the biggest highlights of his life. He stated this town will always be apart of him and he will always do right by her.

RECESS/RECEPTION

Mayor Withers recessed the meeting for a reception and asked to reconvene at 7:40 p.m.

RECONVEINE/OATH OF OFFICE

Mr. Linn reconvened the meeting.

I) Senator Carl L. Ford was present to administer the Oath of Office to the elected Council members.

Mr. Charles Seaford was sworn into office as Mayor of the Town of China Grove for a term of four years.

Mr. Rodney Phillips was sworn into office as Councilman of the Town of China Grove for a term of four years.

Mr. Steve Stroud was sworn into office as Councilman of the Town of China Grove for a term of four years.

II) Council Vacancy Appointment & Oath of office

Mr. Stroud made the motion to appoint Don Bringle as Councilman to fill the vacancy on the Board. Mr. Heggins seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Bringle was sworn into office as Councilman of the Town of China Grove for a term of two years.

III) Appoint Mayor Pro-Tem

Mr. Linn made a motion to appoint Mr. Phillips as Mayor Pro Tem. Mr. Stroud seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Rodney Phillips was sworn into office as Mayor Pro Tem of the Town of China Grove.

CITIZEN COMMENT

None

NEW BUSINESS

I) 2020 Appointments to the TAC and TCC of Cabarrus-Rowan Urban Area MPO

Mr. Stroud made a motion to appoint Mr. Seaford to the TAC. Mr. Linn seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Stroud made a motion to appoint Mr. Linn as alternate to the TAC. Mr. Phillips seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Stroud made a motion to appoint Mr. Gover as the TCC representative. Mr. Linn seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Stroud made a motion to appoint Mr. Ketner as the alternate TCC representative. Mr. Linn seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Bringle would like to remind everyone of the Christmas in the Grove event on December 14th and the Tree Lighting Ceremony on December 7th.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Stroud made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Linn seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pamela L. Mills, CMC
Town Clerk

Charles Seaford
Mayor